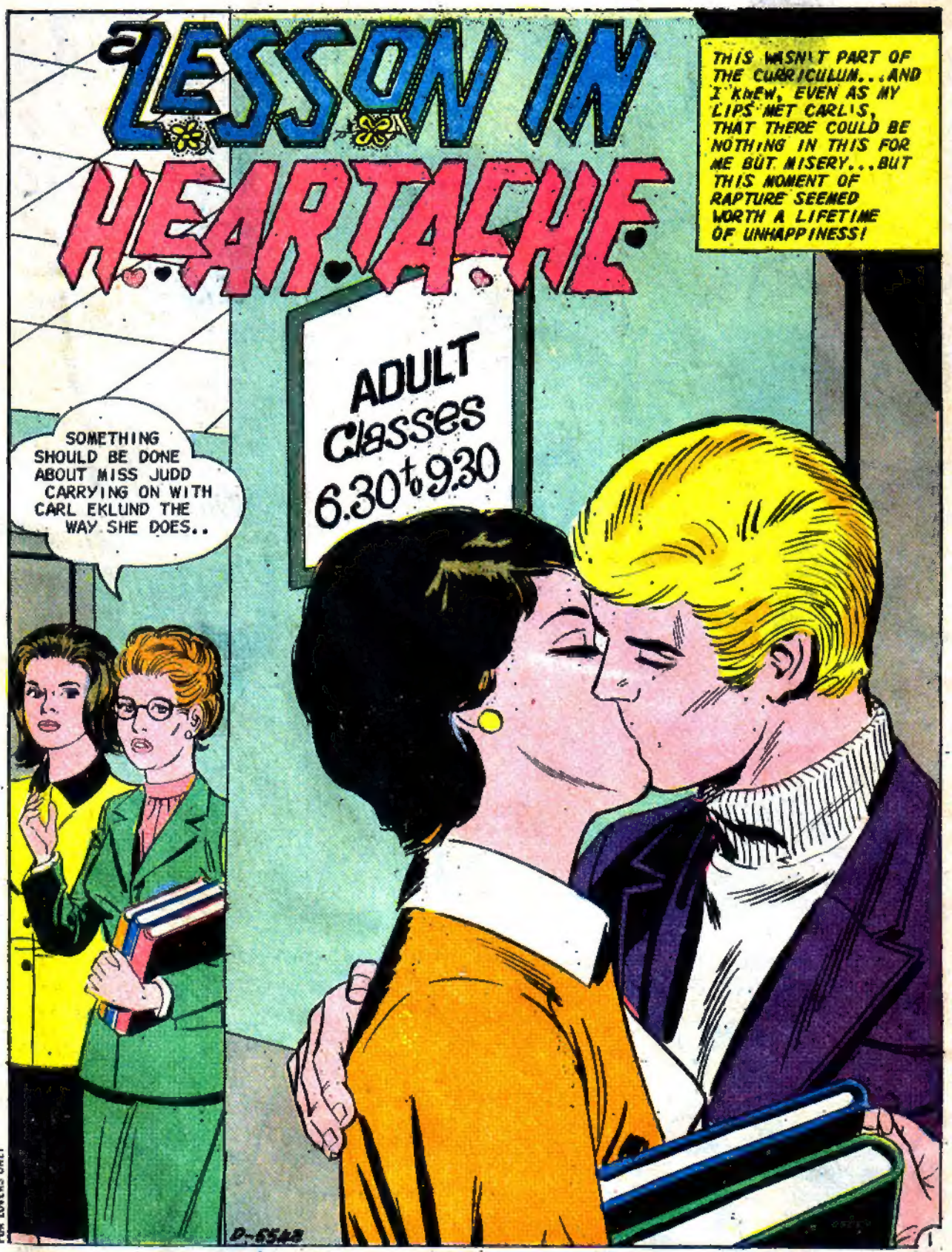
ALL NEW
CHARLTON COMICS 25¢
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
FOR LOVERS ONLY
NO. 75 SEP. 00773 74/CDC
UK 6p
I SEEMED TO HEAR
The Whispering
ON THIS ISSUE... FIND-a-WORD PUZZLE PAGE! NO DICTIONARY NEEDED! JUST GRAB A PENCIL!
...EACH TIME I KISSED DOUG. WAS IT JEALOUSY ... OR SOMETHING WORSE?
00773


a LESSON IN HEARTACHE
THIS WASN'T PART OF THE CURRICULUM...AND I KNEW, EVEN AS MY LIPS MET CARL'S, THAT THERE COULD BE NOTHING IN THIS FOR ME BUT MISERY...BUT THIS MOMENT OF RAPTURE SEEMED WORTH A LIFETIME OF UNHAPPINESS!
ADULT Classes 6.30 to 9.30
SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT MISS JUDD CARRYING ON WITH CARL EKLUND THE WAY SHE DOES..
D-65AB

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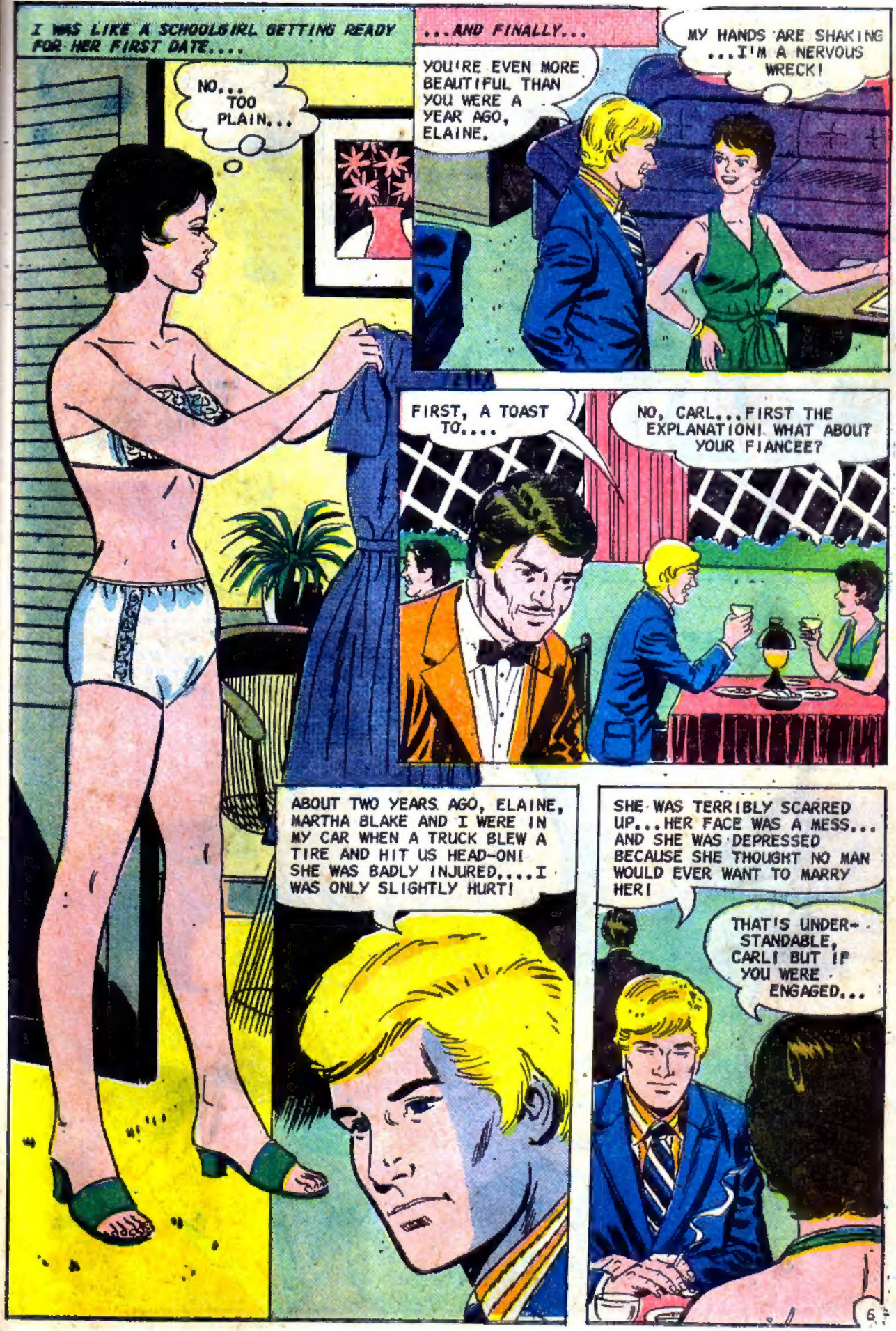
EVERYONE KNOWS CARL IS ENGAGED....
I HEARD MRS. KOPOLSKY...IT CAN'T BE TRUE!
ELAINE, I... WE SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS!
THEN IT'S TRUE...HE IS ENGAGED!
I TAUGHT FIFTH GRADE IN OUR REGULAR SCHOOL SYSTEM..
CARL'S PRIVATE LIFE IS A MYSTERY...I KNOW HE'S A CONTRACTOR...IT'S AMAZING HOW WELL HE'S DONE CONSIDERING....
...HE DROPPED OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL IN HIS FIRST YEAR...THEN, HE ENLISTED IN THE MARINES AND WENT TO VIET NAM...HE CAME HERE WHEN HE GOT OUT OF THE MARINES AND WENT INTO BUSINESS!
ONE OF THE CHILDREN CAME IN TO THE CAFETERIA TO TELL ME A MAN HAD ASKED FOR ME OUTSIDE AT NOON...IT WAS CARL!
CARL...SO THIS IS WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE DURING WORKING HOURS!
I GET A LITTLE DUSTY ON THE JOB, ELAINE. LOOK...I'VE GOT A PROBLEM...
THIS IS A PROFESSIONAL BUILDING I PROPOSE BUILDING...I'VE PREPARED FIGURES ON IT BUT AS YOU KNOW I'M NOT EXACTLY A WHIZ KID WHEN IT COMES TO MATH. WILL YOU CHECK ME ON IT? I THINK I'VE OVER-ESTIMATED THE COSTS... THE PRICE SHOULD BE ABOUT 15% LOWER THAN WHAT I'VE GOT TOTALED!

SO I WORKED ON CARL'S LABOR-AND-MATERIAL FIGURES...ADDED IN A FEW VARIABLES HE'D INDICATED...AND ARRIVED AT A FIGURE 16% LOWER THAN CARL'S TOTAL! I TOLD HIM ABOUT IT AT SCHOOL WEDNESDAY NIGHT!
I RECHECKED THE ESTIMATE WITH A CALCULATOR, CARL! HERE ARE THE CORRECT FIGURES!
AS MUCH ABOUT ME AS YOU DO ABOUT THE GIRL TO WHOM YOU'RE ENGAGED?
FROM NOW ON, CARL...LET HER HELP YOU WITH YOUR HOMEWORK!
HE HADN'T DENIED IT...SO I KNEW IT WAS TRUE...AND THAT NIGHT I PAID THE FIRST INSTALLMENT ON THE MISERY THAT LAY AHEAD!
HOW COULD HE BEHAVE THE WAY HE DID...
...HOW COULD HE KISS ME... IF HE'S IN LOVE WITH THE GIRL HE'S GOING TO MARRY?
CARL...THE OTHER NIGHT WHEN YOU KISSED ME...I THOUGHT IT MEANT SOMETHING....
IT DID, ELAINE! I CARE A GREAT DEAL ABOUT YOU! I....

WHEN I SAW CARL FRIDAY NIGHT, HE LOOKED MISERABLE TOO...I WANTED TO AVOID HIM BUT HE WAITED DOGGEDLY UNTIL THE OTHERS WERE GONE!
CARL, I... I DON'T THINK WE'VE GOT ANYTHING TO SAY TO EACH OTHER.
ELAINE, I KNOW YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT.. MARTHA BLAKE ...SHE'S THE GIRL I ASKED TO MARRY ME!
I NEVER HEARD THE NAME, CARL. SHE ISN'T FROM THIS CITY, IS SHE?
NO...NO ONE HERE KNOWS HER...NO ONE WOULD'VE KNOWN I WAS ENGAGED IF ONE OF THE MEN IN MY OFFICE HADN'T TAKEN A PHONE CALL... FROM MARTHA...SHE TOLD HIM WE WERE ENGAGED!
WELL? ARE YOU SUGGESTING THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH KISSING ME...JUST AS LONG AS SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT?
NO, THAT ISN'T..... OH, WHAT'S THE USE!
I WON'T BE BACK, MISS JUDD...GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK!
GOOD-BYE, MR. EKLUND!
4

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

A YEAR PASSED...A VERY SAD YEAR FOR ME...I'D SEE CARL AROUND TOWN...I WATCHED THE BUILDINGS HIS COMPANY CONSTRUCTED AND FELT PROUD OF HIM...WHILE I WONDERED WHO WAS HELPING HIM WITH HIS FIGURES NOW....
IF THINGS HAD BEEN DIFFERENT... I'D BE SO PROUD OF CARL!
WEST EN
PROFE
BUIDING
EKLUND
THERE'S CARL...H-HE'S COMING OVER TO MY CAR!
WAIT, ELAINE... I WANT TO TALK TO YOU....
WHAT ABOUT? ARE YOU INVITING ME TO YOUR WEDDING?
THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE A WEDDING, ELAINE ....THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO TELL YOU..I'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO.....
...AND I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TOO, ELAINE. WILL YOU HAVE DINNER WITH ME SO I CAN DO BOTH PROPERLY?
I SUPPOSE SO, CARL....


I WAS LIKE A SCHOOLGIRL GETTING READY FOR HER FIRST DATE....
NO... TOO PLAIN...
...AND FINALLY...
YOU'RE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN YOU WERE A YEAR AGO, ELAINE.
MY HANDS ARE SHAKING ...I'M A NERVOUS WRECK!
FIRST, A TOAST TO....
NO, CARL...FIRST THE EXPLANATION! WHAT ABOUT YOUR FIANCEE?
ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, ELAINE, MARTHA BLAKE AND I WERE IN MY CAR WHEN A TRUCK BLEW A TIRE AND HIT US HEAD-ON! SHE WAS BADLY INJURED....I WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY HURT!
SHE WAS TERRIBLY SCARRED UP...HER FACE WAS A MESS... AND SHE WAS DEPRESSED BECAUSE SHE THOUGHT NO MAN WOULD EVER WANT TO MARRY HER!
THAT'S UNDER-STANDABLE, CARL! BUT IF YOU WERE ENGAGED...
6

WE HADN'T BEEN ENGAGED BEFORE...I VISITED HER REGULARLY AND TOLD HER I THOUGHT SHE'D LOOK GREAT... AND SORT OF AGREED TO MARRY HER...TO BOOST HER MORALE!
BUT NOW YOU'VE BROKEN YOUR ENGAGEMENT? CARL, THAT'S HORRIBLE! THAT POOR GIRL...
THAT POOR GIRL IS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER....I HIRED THE FINEST PLASTIC SURGEONS IN THE COUNTRY! SHE MARRIED ONE OF THE DOCTORS A MONTH AGO....
CARL, YOU'RE REALLY A VERY SWEET GUY! I'M SO GLAD FOR HER...
...AND I'M GLAD FOR US, ELAINE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, CARL?
I MEAN I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU, ELAINE I WANT TO BE ENGAGED TO YOU, NOT ANYONE ELSE!
OUR KISS HAD TO WAIT UNTIL LATER...BUT THAT MADE IT SO MUCH SWEETER...AND I KNEW I'D LEARNED ABOUT HEART-ACHE... AND OUR NEXT LESSON WOULD BE ABOUT... HAPPINESS!
OH, DARLING...I WANT THAT TOO...SO VERY MUCH!
END

FIND-a-WORD

IT'S FUN!

SEEK-a-WORD

IT'S EASY!

YOU NEED NO REFERENCE—JUST A SHARP EYE!!

- AS YOU LOCATE A WORD IN THE DIAGRAM, CIRCLE IT AND CROSS IT OFF THE LIST.
- ALL WORDS ARE ALWAYS FOUND IN A STRAIGHT LINE EITHER **FORWARD, BACKWARD, UP, DOWN** OR **DIAGONALLY.** NO LETTERS ARE EVER SKIPPED. YOU WILL NOT USE UP ALL THE LETTERS IN A GIVEN DIAGRAM.
- FOR A VARIATION, TRY COVERING THE WORD LIST AND CIRCLE AS MANY WORDS IN THE DIAGRAM AS YOU CAN.

THESE ARE PART OF A NEWSPAPER

1. PRESS
2. REPORTER
3. EXTRA
4. SPORTS
5. MASTHEAD
6. TABLOID
7. EDITOR
8. WANT ADS
9. PUBLISHER
10. PRINTER
11. SOCIETY PAGE
12. COMICS SECTION
13. SUPPLEMENT
14. BULLDOG EDITION

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T	X	T	B	L	U	R	D	E	O	T	R	U
C	X	W	A	N	T	A	D	S	R	O	N	N
E	R	U	V	O	E	U	M	O	B	P	W	N
S	H	O	T	H	X	S	P	U	L	R	E	O
S	T	W	T	A	T	E	A	J	N	L	T	I
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I	A	O	W	T	D	P	M	R	N	C	A	I
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C	U	E	R	M	K	S	P	O	R	T	S	G
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O	S	Y	Y	L	T	D	R	H	O	L	U	D
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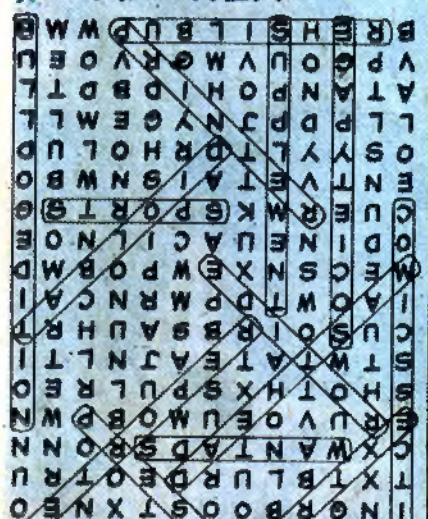
ANSWERS



LOOK FOR

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FIND-A-WORD AND SEEK-A-WORD—TWO NEW CHARLTON PUZZLE MAGAZINES FOUND ON MOST NEWSSTANDS!

I BOUGHT HIS KISSES!

THE FIRST NIGHT WE MET, TURK MELTON SEEMED INCREDIBLY HEROIC...WHICH WAS RIGHT IN CHARACTER BECAUSE I LEARNED LATER HE HAD A CIGAR BOX FULL OF MEDALS FROM THE VIET NAM WAR!

MY PURSE, HE...DON'T BE FOOLISH...LET HIM HAVE IT!
I HATE THESE PUNKS!
LOOK... A HERO TYPE! LET'S TAKE HIM!
ARE YOU CRAZY? WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!
YOU RUN, BABY...I'M GOING TO MESS WITH THESE GUYS!

HE'S CRAZY...IN A WONDERFUL WAY!
YOU WANT TROUBLE...YOU'VE GOT IT!
THEY TOOK OFF...BUT A BEAUTIFUL CHICK LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T WALK ALONE AT NIGHT!
I...I HAD NO CHOICE... I'M TAKING SOME NIGHT COURSES....
....AND I CAN'T GET HOME ANY OTHER WAY!
DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M BEAUTIFUL?
HE WALKED HOME WITH ME AND..
I WONDER IF HE'LL TRY TO KISS ME....
...IF I LOOK SORT OF ENCOURAGING!
BY THE WAY.. I'M TURK MELTON.... MAYBE I'LL SEE YOU AROUND!
I'M MARLA BYRD...AND YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW GRATEFUL I AM, TURK!
2

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

NEXT DAY, IN THE OFFICE WHERE I DATED SOME OF THE MEN, I REMEMBERED TURK MELTON...AND COMPARED HIM WITH THE OTHERS!
YOU MEAN THIS MANIAC ATTACKED THREE HOODLUMS WHO WERE ONLY TRYING TO STEAL YOUR PURSE?
THE NUT MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN YOU BOTH MURDERED!
THESE TWO SWINGERS ARE TOO SENSIBLE TO RESCUE A LADY IN DISTRESS!
I WONDER IF I'LL EVER SEE TURK AGAIN...
NOT THAT NIGHT...BUT TWO NIGHTS LATER WHEN I HAD A LATE CLASS AGAIN, I EMERGED FROM THE SUBWAY....
SOMEONE IS WATCHING ME....
HI, AT IT AGAIN...YOU'LL GET YOURSELF KILLED IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL!
OH, IT'S YOU, TURK...I'M SO GLAD!
I'VE TOLD YOU WHERE I WORK AND WHAT I DO, TURK. NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'VE BEEN OUT OF UNIFORM NEARLY A YEAR, MARLA...I HAVEN'T LOOKED TOO HARD FOR A JOB SO FAR...

NEXT DAY, IN THE OFFICE WHERE I DATED SOME OF THE MEN, I REMEMBERED TURK MELTON...AND COMPARED HIM WITH THE OTHERS!
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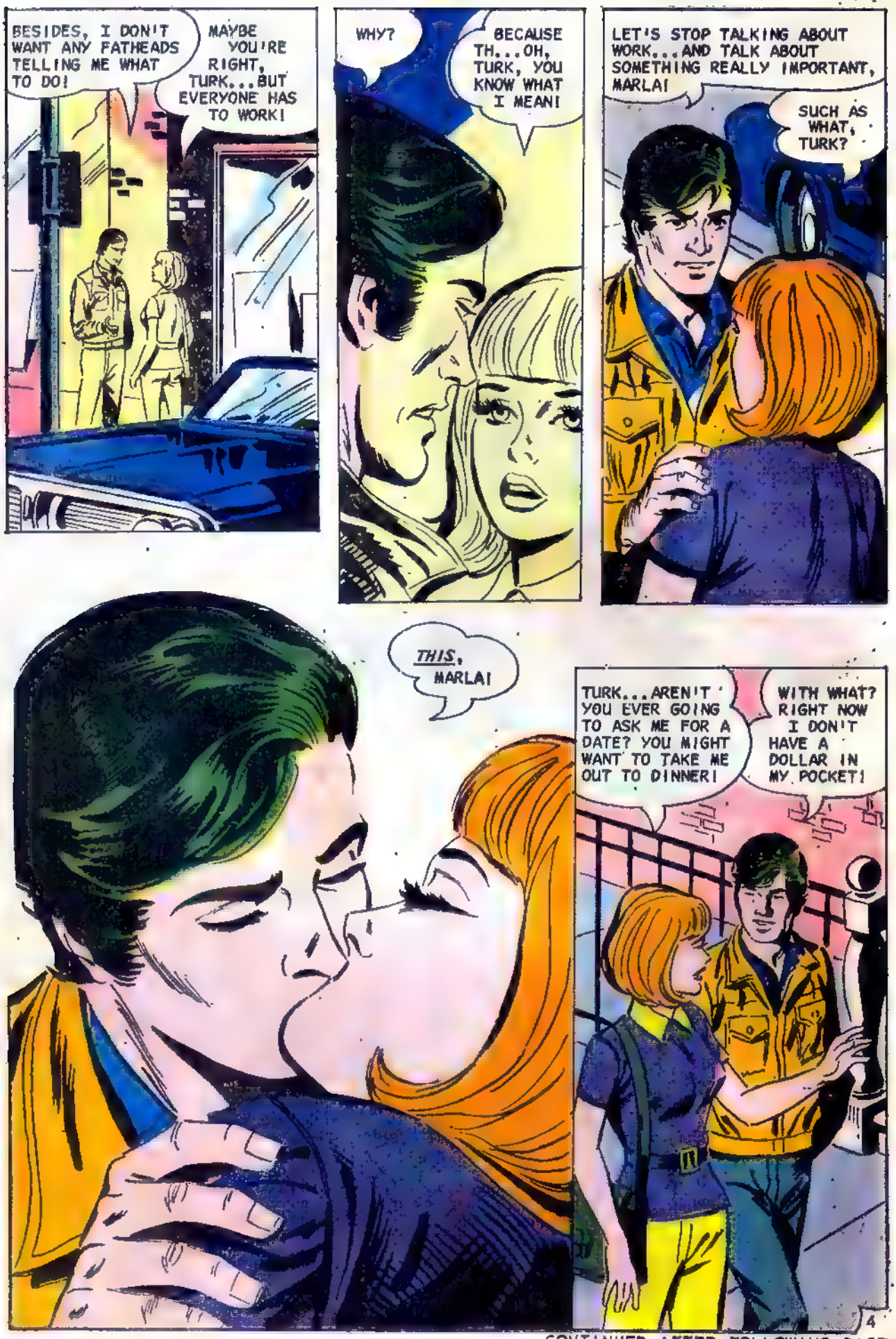
OH, IT'S YOU, TURK...I'M SO GLAD!
I'VE TOLD YOU WHERE I WORK AND WHAT I DO, TURK. NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'VE BEEN OUT OF UNIFORM NEARLY A YEAR, MARLA...I HAVEN'T LOOKED TOO HARD FOR A JOB SO FAR...
3


BESIDES, I DON'T WANT ANY FATHEADS TELLING ME WHAT TO DO!
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, TURK...BUT EVERYONE HAS TO WORK!
WHY?
BECAUSE TH...OH, TURK, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!
LET'S STOP TALKING ABOUT WORK...AND TALK ABOUT SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT, MARLA!
SUCH AS WHAT, TURK?
THIS, MARLA!
TURK...AREN'T YOU EVER GOING TO ASK ME FOR A DATE? YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE ME OUT TO DINNER!
WITH WHAT? RIGHT NOW I DON'T HAVE A DOLLAR IN MY POCKET!

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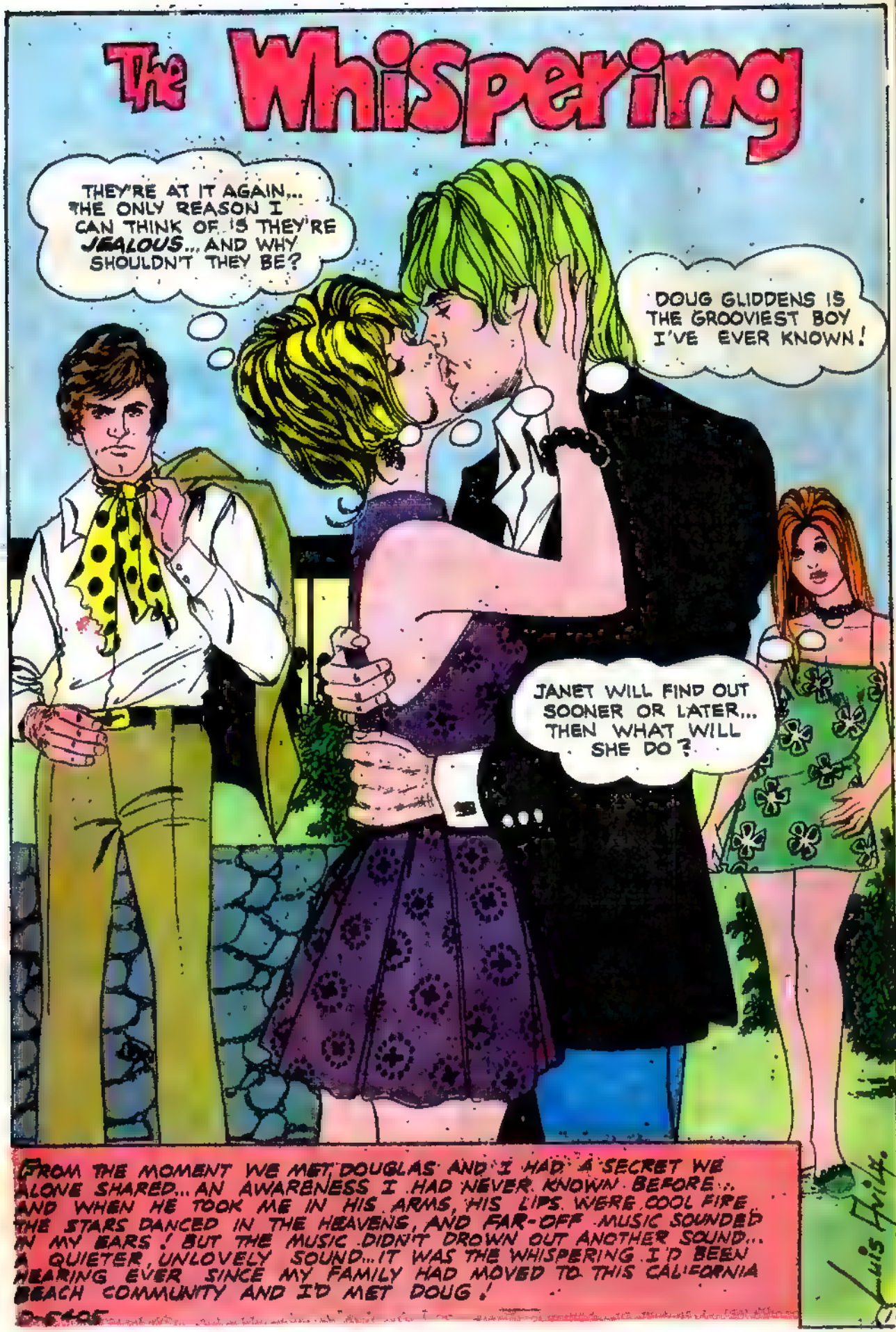
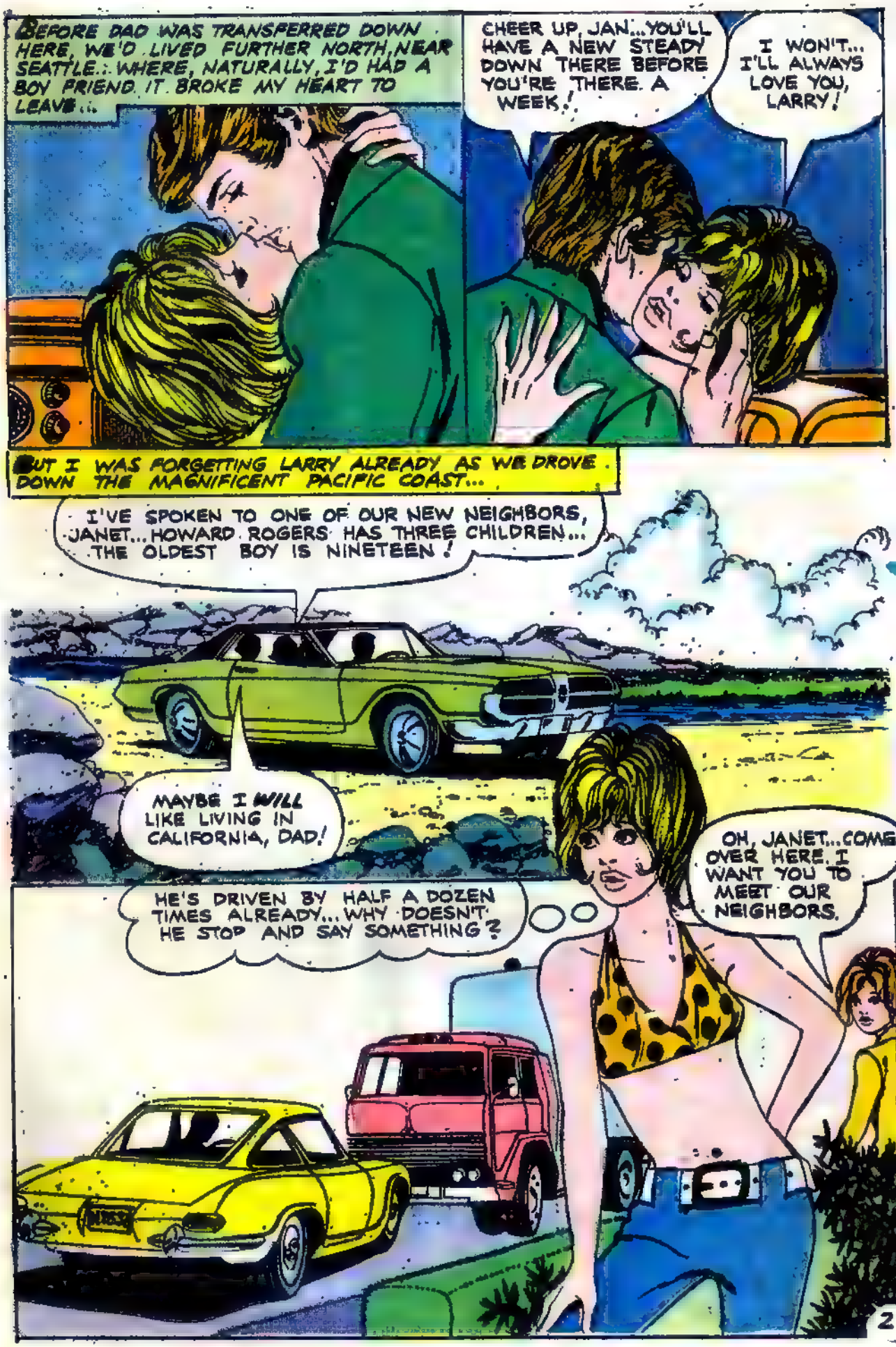
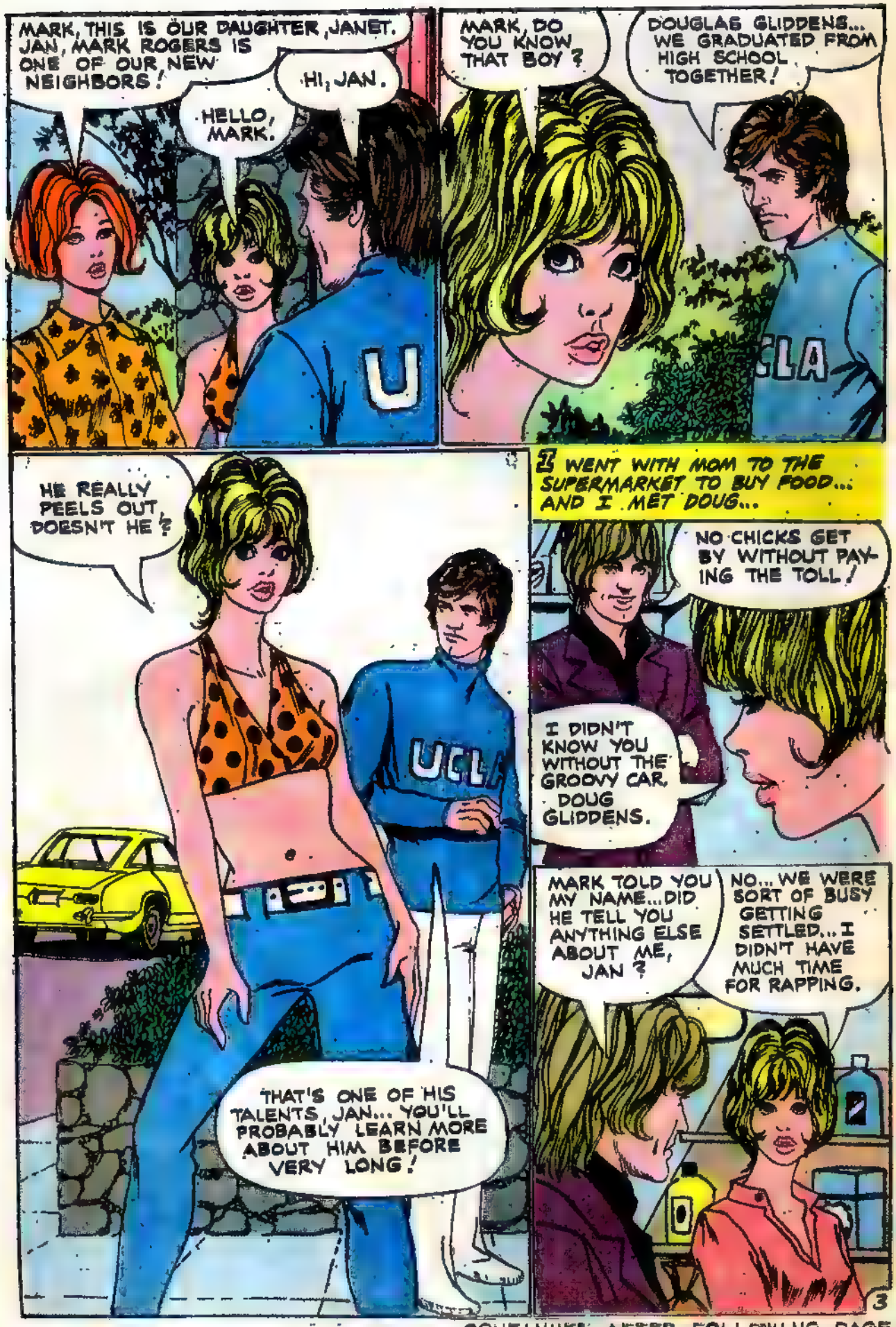
WELL, I WOULD'VE LOST MORE THAN A HUNDRED DOLLARS.... AND MAYBE BADLY HURT IF YOU HADN'T HELPED SO LET ME TREAT US TO DINNER!
IT MAKES SENSE, MARLA.... WHY NOT?
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I GAVE TURK MONEY TO TAKE ME TO DINNER....
MAYBE A GOOD JOB MIGHT NOT BE A BAD IDEA! I DIG THIS DINNER ROUTINE!
OTHER NIGHTS I'D GIVE HIM A FIVE DOLLAR BILL AND WE'D GO TO SOME SMALL PLACE AND LISTEN TO MUSIC....
HE'S NICER THAN ANYONE I'VE EVER KNOWN...BUT WOULD HE WANT TO BE WITH ME IF HE WERE SPENDING HIS OWN MONEY?
TURK, THERE'S AN OPENING FOR A JUNIOR SALES EXECUTIVE IN MY OFFICE! I'VE ALREADY TOLD MR. ENDICOTT ABOUT YOU AND...
LOOK, MARLA...I KNOW WE'RE SPENDING YOUR MONEY... BUT AT LEAST LET ME PLAN MY OWN LIFE!
THIS WAS A CRUMMY IDEA ANYHOW! THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF THE BILL...I'LL SEE YOU AROUND!

I REALIZED I'D CREATED THE SITUATION...I HAD INSISTED ON GIVING HIM MONEY TO TAKE ME PLACES! NOW I PAID THE REAL PRICE..... IN TEARS!
TURK NEVER WANTED A JOB OR MATERIAL THINGS...HE'S A REBEL...HE'D NEVER DREAM OF MARRYING ANYONE!
I WAS A HELL OF MY OWN MAKING FOR NEARLY TWO WEEKS...I CRIED MYSELF TO SLEEP EVERY NIGHT!
WHO CAN THAT BE?
RING
TURK! WHAT ARE...
I'VE COME TO INVITE YOU TO DINNER, MARLA..... THIS TIME I PAY THE CHECK!
ALL THE TIME I WAS JUST HANGING AROUND, I WAS WAITING FOR THIS BUDDY OF MINE TO CALL... WE'VE GOT A CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS STARTED OUTSIDE THE CITY! WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT DURING DINNER!
WE TALKED OF HIS FUTURE...AND MINE...DURING DINNER BUT LATER WE DISCUSSED THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF ALL...LOVE!
I LOVE YOU, MARL.....I HAVE SINCE THAT FIRST NIGHT!
OH, DARLING...
End


The Whispering
THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN... THE ONLY REASON I CAN THINK OF IS THEY'RE JEALOUS... AND WHY SHOULDN'T THEY BE?
DOUG GLIDDENS IS THE GROOVIEST BOY I'VE EVER KNOWN!
JANET WILL FIND OUT SOONER OR LATER... THEN WHAT WILL SHE DO?
FROM THE MOMENT WE MET, DOUGLAS AND I HAD A SECRET WE ALONE SHARED... AN AWARENESS I HAD NEVER KNOWN BEFORE... AND WHEN HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS, HIS LIPS WERE COOL FIRE, THE STARS DANCED IN THE HEAVENS, AND FAR-OFF MUSIC SOUNDED IN MY EARS! BUT THE MUSIC DIDN'T DROWN OUT ANOTHER SOUND... A QUIETER, UNLOVELY SOUND... IT WAS THE WHISPERING I'D BEEN HEARING EVER SINCE MY FAMILY HAD MOVED TO THIS CALIFORNIA BEACH COMMUNITY AND I'D MET DOUG!
D-6405
Luis Dorantes


BEFORE DAD WAS TRANSFERRED DOWN HERE, WE'D LIVED FURTHER NORTH, NEAR SEATTLE... WHERE, NATURALLY, I'D HAD A BOY FRIEND. IT BROKE MY HEART TO LEAVE...
CHEER UP, JAN... YOU'LL HAVE A NEW STEADY DOWN THERE BEFORE YOU'RE THERE A WEEK!
I WON'T... I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU, LARRY!
BUT I WAS FORGETTING LARRY ALREADY AS WE DROVE DOWN THE MAGNIFICENT PACIFIC COAST...
I'VE SPOKEN TO ONE OF OUR NEW NEIGHBORS, JANET... HOWARD ROGERS HAS THREE CHILDREN... THE OLDEST BOY IS NINETEEN!
MAYBE I WILL LIKE LIVING IN CALIFORNIA, DAD!
HE'S DRIVEN BY HALF A DOZEN TIMES ALREADY... WHY DOESN'T HE STOP AND SAY SOMETHING?
OH, JANET... COME OVER HERE. I WANT YOU TO MEET OUR NEIGHBORS.


MARK, THIS IS OUR DAUGHTER, JANET. JAN, MARK ROGERS IS ONE OF OUR NEW NEIGHBORS!
HI, JAN.
HELLO, MARK.
MARK, DO YOU KNOW THAT BOY?
DOUGLAS GLIDDENS... WE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER!
I WENT WITH MOM TO THE SUPERMARKET TO BUY FOOD... AND I MET DOUG...
HE REALLY PEELS OUT, DOESN'T HE?
NO CHICKS GET BY WITHOUT PAYING THE TOLL!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WITHOUT THE GROOVY CAR, DOUG GLIDDENS.
MARK TOLD YOU MY NAME... DID HE TELL YOU ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT ME, JAN?
NO... WE WERE SORT OF BUSY GETTING SETTLED... I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME FOR RAPPING.
THAT'S ONE OF HIS TALENTS, JAN... YOU'LL PROBABLY LEARN MORE ABOUT HIM BEFORE VERY LONG!
3

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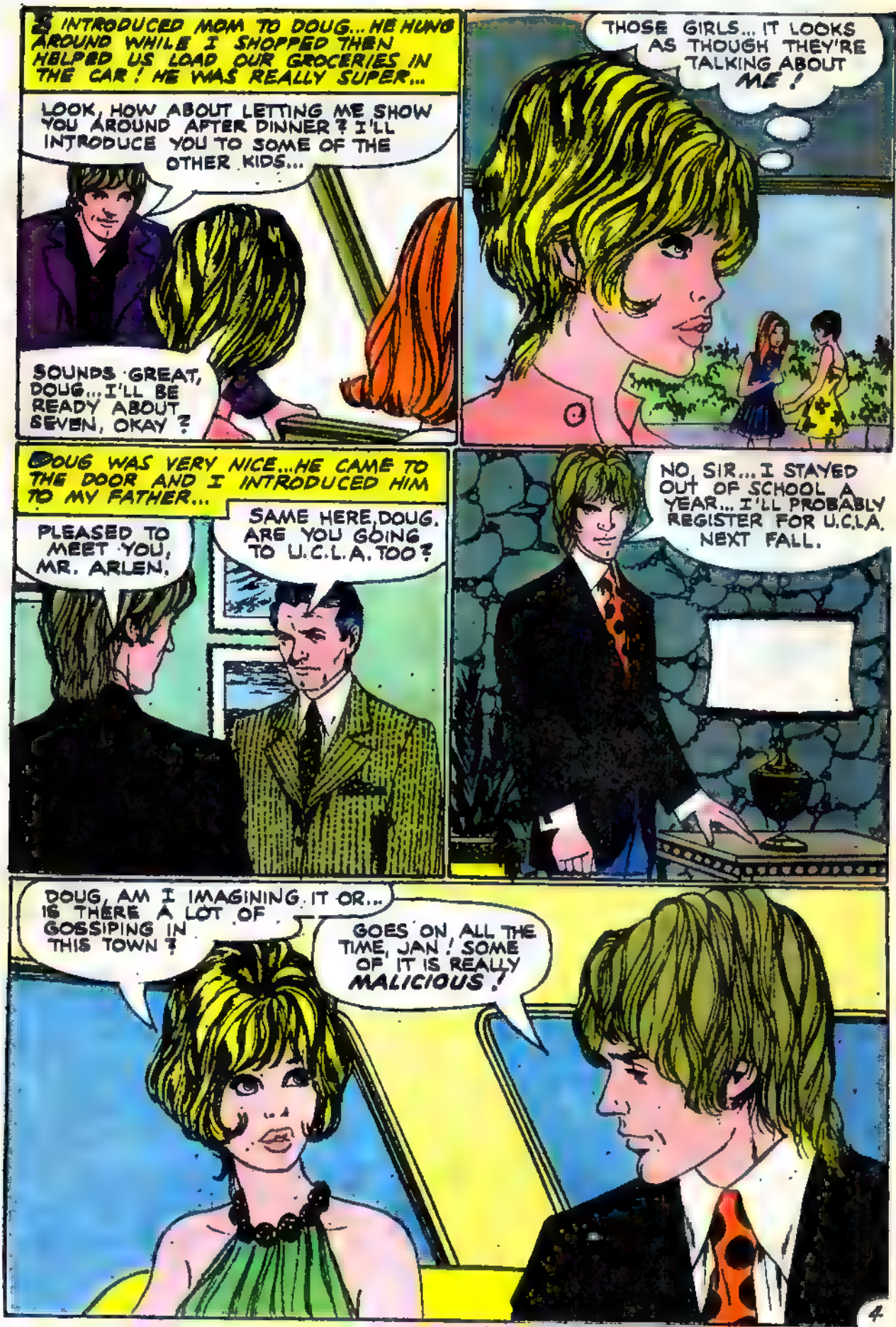
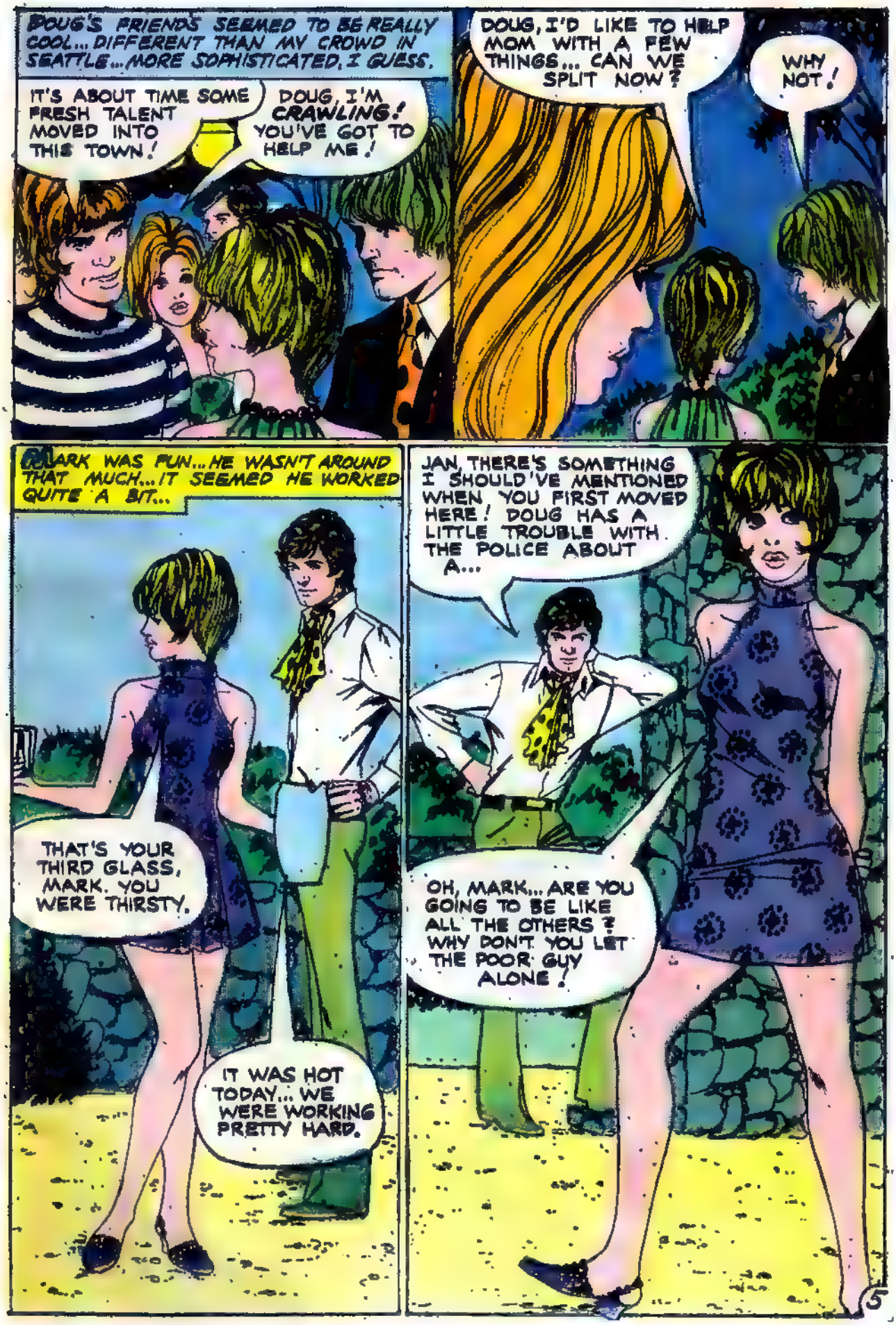
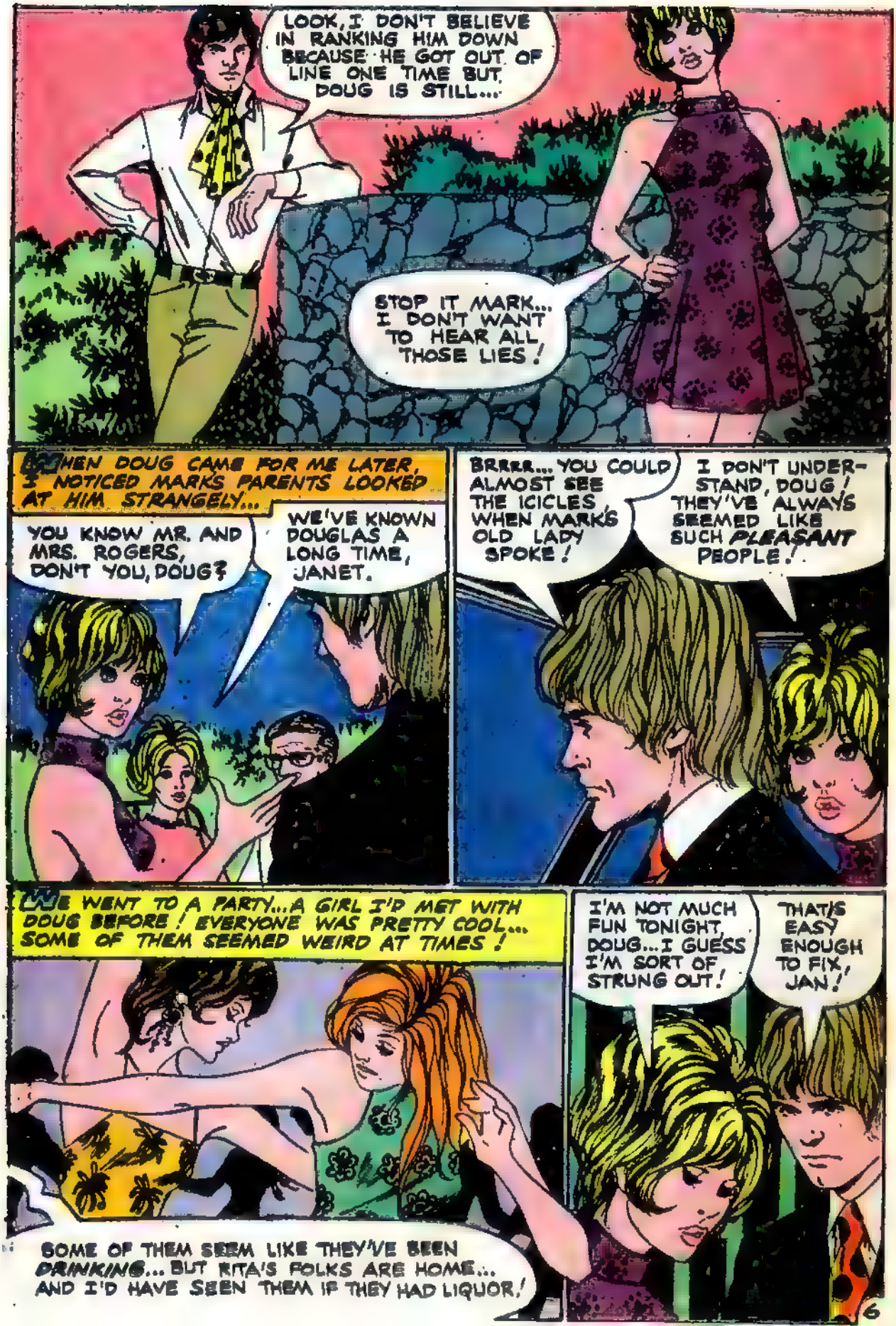
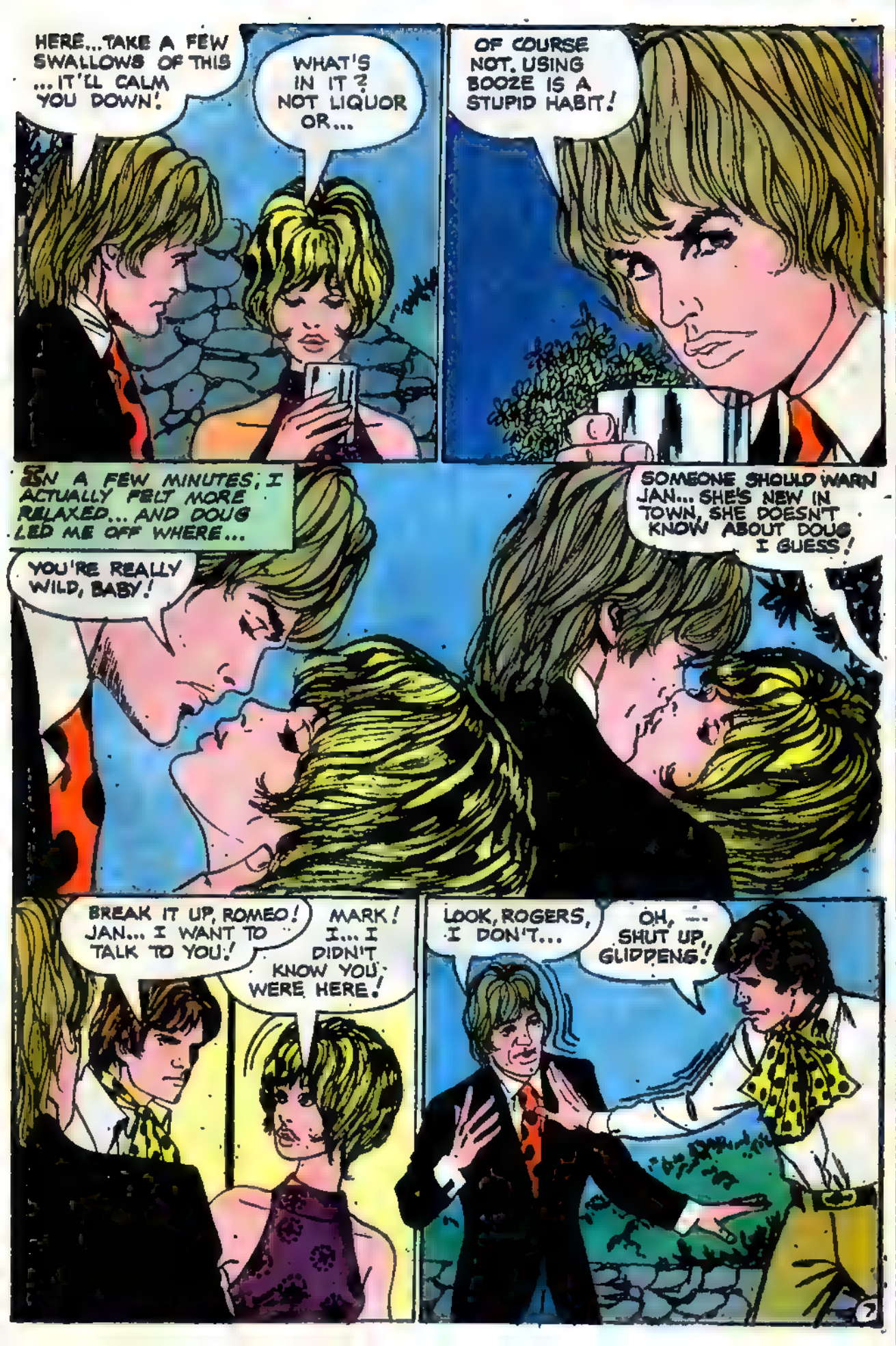
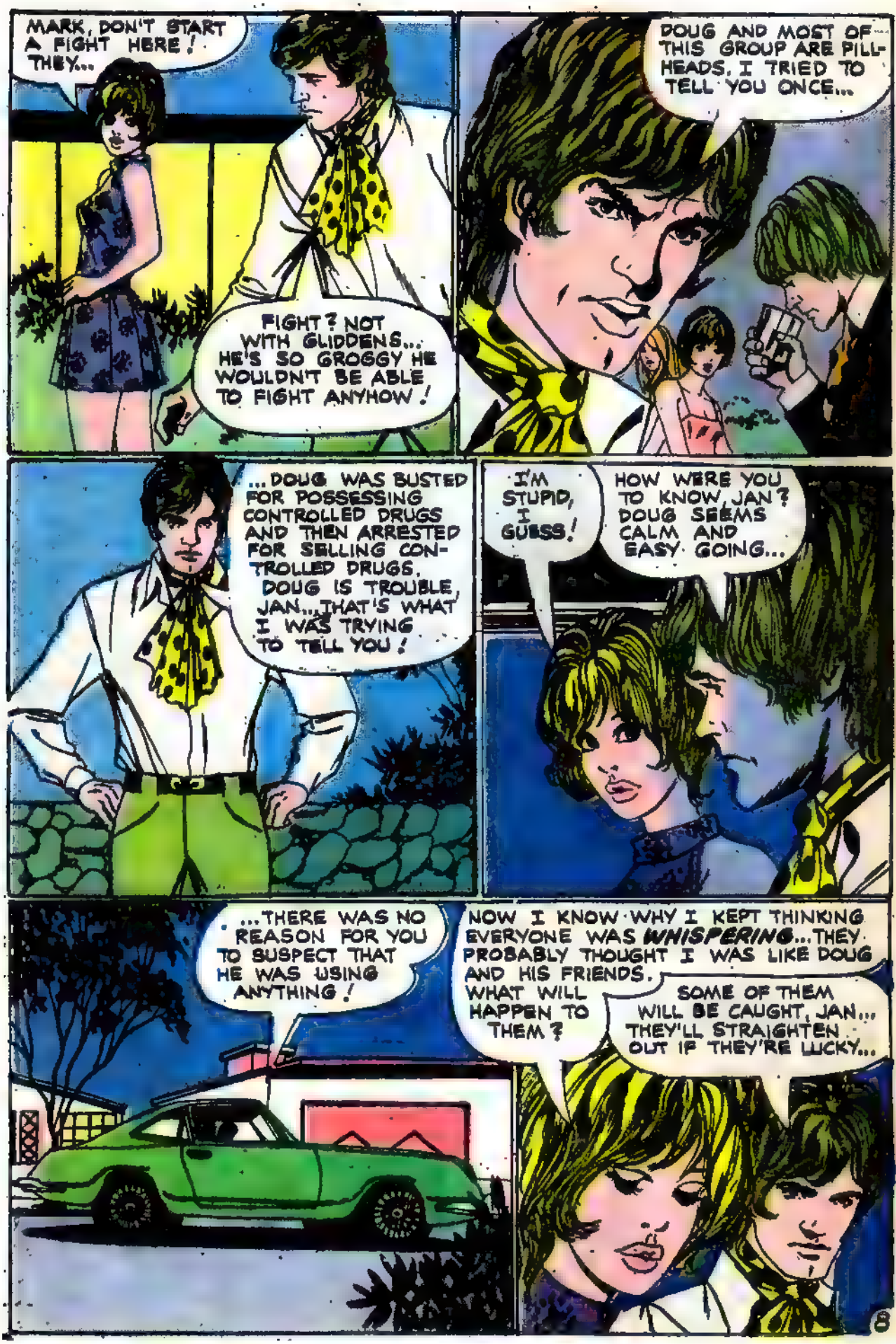
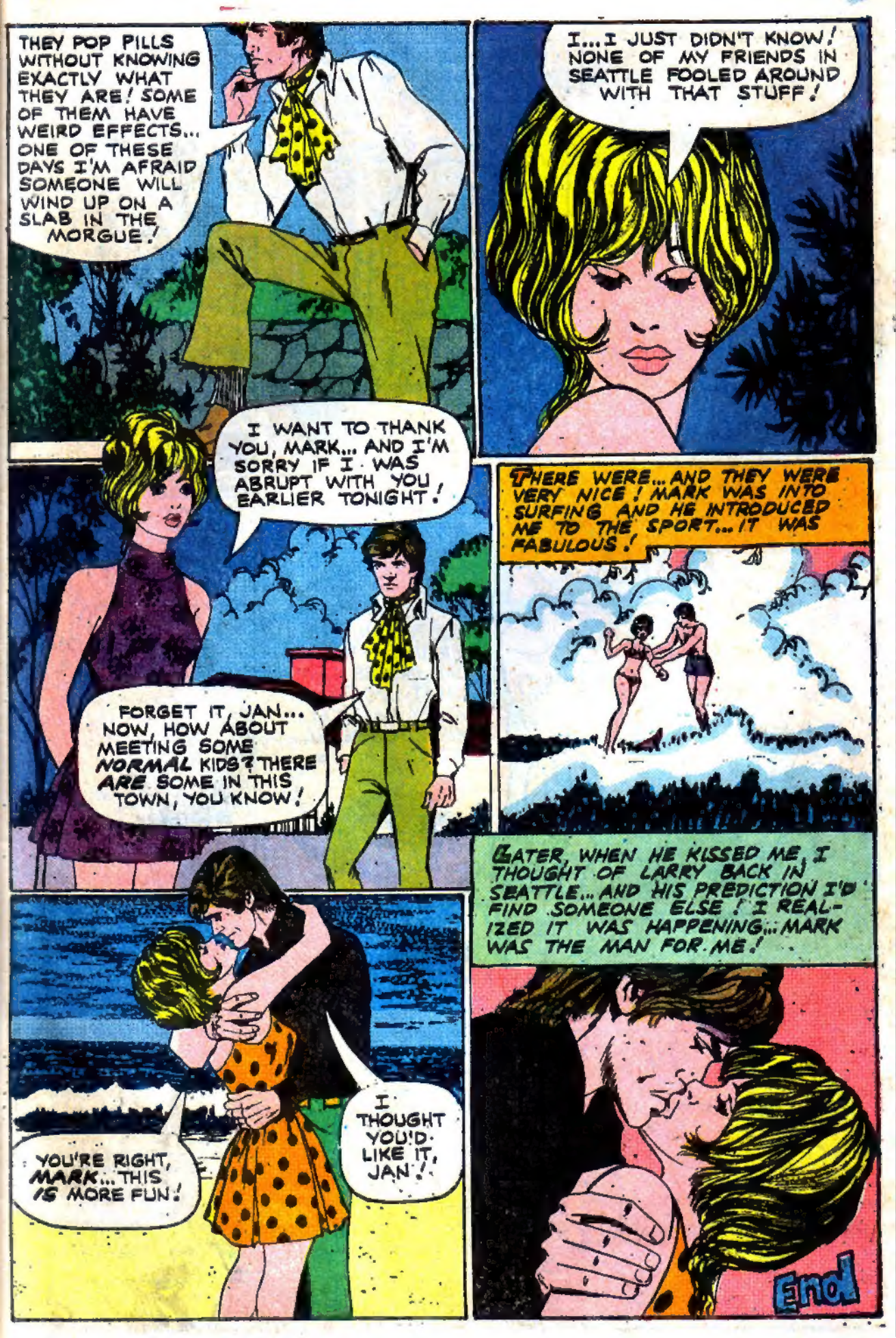

I INTRODUCED MOM TO DOUG... HE HUNG AROUND WHILE I SHOPPED THEN HELPED US LOAD OUR GROCERIES IN THE CAR! HE WAS REALLY SUPER...
LOOK, HOW ABOUT LETTING ME SHOW YOU AROUND AFTER DINNER? I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME OF THE OTHER KIDS...
SOUNDS GREAT, DOUG... I'LL BE READY ABOUT SEVEN, OKAY?
THOSE GIRLS... IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ME!
DOUG WAS VERY NICE... HE CAME TO THE DOOR AND I INTRODUCED HIM TO MY FATHER...
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, MR. ARLEN.
SAME HERE, DOUG. ARE YOU GOING TO U.C.L.A. TOO?
NO, SIR... I STAYED OUT OF SCHOOL A YEAR... I'LL PROBABLY REGISTER FOR U.C.L.A. NEXT FALL.
DOUG, AM I IMAGINING IT OR... IS THERE A LOT OF GOSSIPING IN THIS TOWN?
GOES ON ALL THE TIME, JAN! SOME OF IT IS REALLY MALICIOUS!


DOUG'S FRIENDS SEEMED TO BE REALLY COOL... DIFFERENT THAN MY CROWD IN SEATTLE... MORE SOPHISTICATED, I GUESS.
IT'S ABOUT TIME SOME FRESH TALENT MOVED INTO THIS TOWN!
DOUG, I'M CRAWLING! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME!
DOUG, I'D LIKE TO HELP MOM WITH A FEW THINGS... CAN WE SPLIT NOW?
WHY NOT!
MARK WAS FUN... HE WASN'T AROUND THAT MUCH... IT SEEMED HE WORKED QUITE A BIT...
THAT'S YOUR THIRD GLASS, MARK. YOU WERE THIRSTY.
IT WAS HOT TODAY... WE WERE WORKING PRETTY HARD.
JAN, THERE'S SOMETHING I SHOULD'VE MENTIONED WHEN YOU FIRST MOVED HERE! DOUG HAS A LITTLE TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE ABOUT A...
OH, MARK... ARE YOU GOING TO BE LIKE ALL THE OTHERS? WHY DON'T YOU LET THE POOR GUY ALONE!


LOOK, I DON'T BELIEVE IN RANKING HIM DOWN BECAUSE HE GOT OUT OF LINE ONE TIME BUT, DOUG IS STILL...
STOP IT MARK... I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ALL THOSE LIES!
WHEN DOUG CAME FOR ME LATER, I NOTICED MARKS PARENTS LOOKED AT HIM STRANGELY...
YOU KNOW MR. AND MRS. ROGERS, DON'T YOU, DOUG?
WE'VE KNOWN DOUGLAS A LONG TIME, JANET.
BRRRR... YOU COULD ALMOST SEE THE ICICLES, WHEN MARK'S OLD LADY SPOKE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, DOUG! THEY'VE ALWAYS SEEMED LIKE SUCH PLEASANT PEOPLE!
WE WENT TO A PARTY... A GIRL I'D MET WITH DOUG BEFORE! EVERYONE WAS PRETTY COOL... SOME OF THEM SEEMED WEIRD AT TIMES!
I'M NOT MUCH FUN TONIGHT, DOUG... I GUESS I'M SORT OF STRUNG OUT!
THAT'S EASY ENOUGH TO FIX, JAN!
SOME OF THEM SEEM LIKE THEY'VE BEEN DRINKING... BUT RITA'S FOLKS ARE HOME... AND I'D HAVE SEEN THEM IF THEY HAD LIQUOR!


HERE...TAKE A FEW SWALLOWS OF THIS ...IT'LL CALM YOU DOWN!
WHAT'S IN IT? NOT LIQUOR OR...
OF COURSE NOT. USING BOOZE IS A STUPID HABIT!
IN A FEW MINUTES, I ACTUALLY FELT MORE RELAXED... AND DOUG LED ME OFF WHERE...
YOU'RE REALLY WILD, BABY!
SOMEONE SHOULD WARN JAN... SHE'S NEW IN TOWN, SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT DOUG I GUESS!
BREAK IT UP, ROMEO! JAN... I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!
MARK! I... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HERE!
LOOK, ROGERS, I DON'T...
OH, ... SHUT UP, GLIDDENS!
7


MARK, DON'T START A FIGHT HERE! THEY...
FIGHT? NOT WITH GLIDDENS... HE'S SO GROGGY HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FIGHT ANYHOW!
DOUG AND MOST OF THIS GROUP ARE PILL-HEADS, I TRIED TO TELL YOU ONCE...
...DOUG WAS BUSTED FOR POSSESSING CONTROLLED DRUGS AND THEN ARRESTED FOR SELLING CONTROLLED DRUGS. DOUG IS TROUBLE, JAN...THAT'S WHAT I WAS TRYING TO TELL YOU!
I'M STUPID, I GUESS!
HOW WERE YOU TO KNOW, JAN? DOUG SEEMS CALM AND EASY GOING...
...THERE WAS NO REASON FOR YOU TO SUSPECT THAT HE WAS USING ANYTHING!
NOW I KNOW WHY I KEPT THINKING EVERYONE WAS WHISPERING...THEY PROBABLY THOUGHT I WAS LIKE DOUG AND HIS FRIENDS. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM?
SOME OF THEM WILL BE CAUGHT, JAN... THEY'LL STRAIGHTEN OUT IF THEY'RE LUCKY...


THEY POP PILLS WITHOUT KNOWING EXACTLY WHAT THEY ARE! SOME OF THEM HAVE WEIRD EFFECTS... ONE OF THESE DAYS I'M AFRAID SOMEONE WILL WIND UP ON A SLAB IN THE MORGUE!
I... I JUST DIDN'T KNOW! NONE OF MY FRIENDS IN SEATTLE FOOLED AROUND WITH THAT STUFF!
I WANT TO THANK YOU, MARK... AND I'M SORRY IF I WAS ABRUPT WITH YOU EARLIER TONIGHT!
FORGET IT, JAN... NOW, HOW ABOUT MEETING SOME NORMAL KIDS? THERE ARE SOME IN THIS TOWN, YOU KNOW!
THERE WERE... AND THEY WERE VERY NICE! MARK WAS INTO SURFING AND HE INTRODUCED ME TO THE SPORT... IT WAS FABULOUS!
LATER, WHEN HE KISSED ME, I THOUGHT OF LARRY BACK IN SEATTLE... AND HIS PREDICTION I'D FIND SOMEONE ELSE! I REALIZED IT WAS HAPPENING... MARK WAS THE MAN FOR ME!
YOU'RE RIGHT, MARK... THIS IS MORE FUN!
I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE IT, JAN!
End

Teen-age TROUBLES

We have asked one of the leading authorities in the country to write a special column for this publication. It will consist of answers to problems of teen-agers. Dr. Harold Gluck has had many years of experience with boys and girls of your age group. He knows what bothers them and the sensible help and advice that they need. So, if you have a problem, write him a letter. State your situation simply and briefly. Give all important facts. Please write legibly. There will be no personal replies. But from your letters, one will be chosen to be answered in every issue of this publication.

*****

Dear Dr. Gluck:

I have a problem on my hands, and to me it does seem somewhat unusual, though it is possible that you may have received letters from other girls about the same situation. I have talked it over with my parents and also with Jim who is the young man concerned.

I am nineteen years of age. I graduated from high school where I took a commercial course. I have a very good job as a private secretary in a law office. I met Jim last summer on my vacation. It looked like a summer romance. But it continued, and we kept on seeing each other more and more. Then he asked me to marry him. He also has a good job in a department store. With our combined salaries, we feel we can meet all expenses and even live in a very nice apartment house.

When I first met his mother, she was rather cold to me. Then came the terrible day when I was with Jim, and he told her he was going to marry me. She started to yell at me like a crazy woman. She told me if I dared to marry her son she would do everything she could to break it up. You can imagine how I feel about it. Jim told me not to worry that she would get over it. My mother isn't so sure. She said you do not begin marriage with one strike against you. However, she also said if I want to get married to Jim, she will make a big wedding. What advice can you give me? It is very important to me and to Jim.

Sincerely yours,
Diana L....

*****

Dear Diana L:

From time to time, I have received letters from girls in a similar situation. Alas, one on my desk is most tragic. She married the young man, and the mother-in-law is doing her best to break up the marriage. Her headache is that her husband is siding with his mother in all disputes. It's too late for me to help her because I would have to get to her husband with what has to be done.

The expression is: "parental objections." For years and even now, there are parents who will voice their objection to a contemplated marriage of an offspring. Their reasons may be very valid, and again they may not be. I have seen these situations among people I know. You can find a mother of a son who actually would never say there is a right girl for her son. She wants to keep him a bachelor. Or she would like to pick out his wife for him. She may even think of her grown-up son as still being her baby boy. And she may even force a choice of her son: "If you marry that girl, then you are out of my life forever."

Can the mother be reached? By her religious advisor? By a very close family friend who is willing to lend a helping hand in this situation? Would she be willing to listen to somebody else? I am thinking of a marriage counselor or your family social service unit if you have one in town. Again, she may be a very disturbed person and need help along this line. I'm not so certain that your mother trying to reach her would even be a good idea.

Let me assume that you and Jim do get married. You both are entitled morally and even legally to live your lives by yourselves. Yet you would have her threat hanging over your head. In a showdown, is he willing to thrust her out of his life? Wow! That is a rather dramatic way to put it. But the choice may have to be his. Let us suppose he did just this. He might have a guilty feeling hanging over him. That would make your married life very difficult. On the other hand, he may be just looking for a chance to break away from her. I know nothing of the situations involved in his relationship with her.

I cannot make the choice for you. It boils down to: to marry him or not to marry him. You have to weigh carefully all the factors concerned on the scale of life. Also, if you two were married and went to a different town to live, would that help matters? You mentioned nothing about his father — whether he's dead or alive.

Cordially yours,
Dr. Harold Gluck

*****

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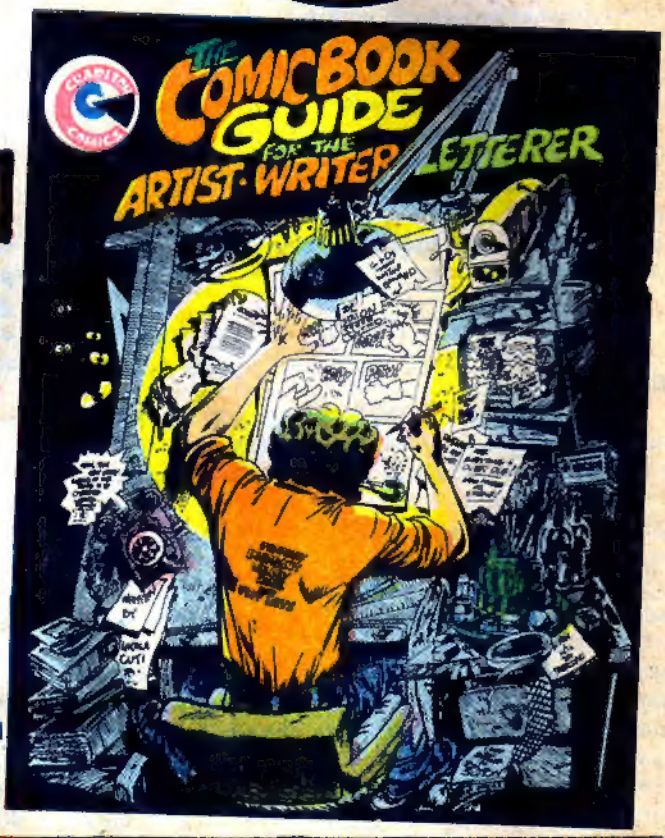

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